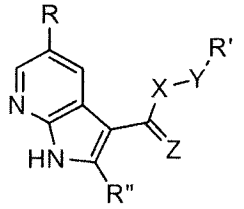
Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in this application.

Listing of claims:

1. (Currently amended) A compound of formula (I):



(I)

wherein:

R stands for phenyl or naphthyl, wherein

each substitutable carbon atom in R, is optionally and independently substituted by one or more of halogen, or NR^2R^2, wherein each R^2 may be the same or different and is as defined below;

R^2 is hydrogen, or $C_{1\text{-}12}$ alkyl;

R' is $C_{1\text{-}12}$ alkyl, $C_{2\text{-}12}$ alkenyl, $C_{2\text{-}12}$ alkynyl, carbocyclyl, indole or benzo[*d*][1,3]dioxole, each of which is optionally substituted, wherein:

the optionally substituted carbocyclyl or heterocyclyl group is optionally fused to one to three unsaturated, partially unsaturated or fully saturated five to seven membered rings containing zero to three heteroatoms,

each substitutable carbon atom in R', including the optional fused ring, is optionally and independently substituted by one or more of $C_{1\text{-}12}$ alkyl, $C_{3\text{-}12}$ heterocycloalkyl, halogen, haloalkyl, OR^2, wherein each R^2 may be the same or different and is as defined above;

R" is hydrogen, or $C_{1\text{-}12}$ alkyl;

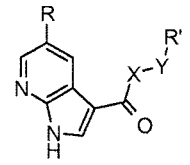
X is NR^5; and R^5 is H, C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-4} alkoxy, C_{1-4} haloalkyl or C_{1-4} haloalkyl; and

Y is absent or is NR^6, CR^6R^6, or C_{1-4} alkylene wherein each R^6 may be the same or different and is H, or C_{1-4} alkyl; and

Z is O;

or the pharmaceutically acceptable salts, ~~and~~ other pharmaceutically acceptable esters, ~~amides, carbamates, carbonates, ureides, solvates, hydrates, affinity reagents and~~ or prodrugs thereof.

2. (Currently Amended) A compound as claimed in claim 1, having the formula (Ia);



(Ia)

wherein

R stands for phenyl or naphthyl, wherein

each substitutable carbon atom in R, is optionally and independently substituted by one or more of halogen, NR^2R^2, wherein each R^2 may be the same or different and is as defined below;

R^2 is hydrogen, or C_{1-12} alkyl;

R' is C_{1-12} alkyl, C_{2-12} alkenyl, C_{2-12} alkynyl, carbocyclyl, indole or benzo[*d*][1,3]dioxole, each of which is optionally substituted, wherein:

the optionally substituted carbocyclyl or ~~heterocyclyl~~ indole or benzo[*d*][1,3]dioxole group is optionally fused to one to three unsaturated, partially unsaturated or fully saturated five to seven membered rings containing zero to three heteroatoms,

each substitutable carbon atom in R', including the optional fused ring, is optionally and independently substituted by one or more of C_{1-12} alkyl, C_{3-12} heterocycloalkyl, halogen, haloalkyl, OR^2, wherein each R^2 may be the same or different and is as defined above;

X is NR^5; and R^5 is H, C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-4} alkoxy, C_{1-4} haloalkyl or C_{1-4} haloalkyl; and

Y is absent or is NR^6, CR^6R^6, or C_{1-4} alkylene wherein each R^6 may be the same or different and is H, or C_{1-4} alkyl.

3. (Currently Amended) A compound as claimed in claim 1, wherein R is phenyl or naphthyl ~~an aryl or heteroaryl radical~~, optionally substituted with one or more of, halogen, or $N(R^9)_2$, wherein each R^9 may be the same or different and stand for hydrogen, or C_{1-4} alkyl.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed in claim 1, wherein R is phenyl substituted in the 3-(meta) position.

6. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed in claim 1, wherein R is phenyl or naphthyl and the substituent is F, Cl, Br, haloalkyl, or alkyl.

7. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed in claim 1, wherein R' is C_{1-4} alkyl, alkenyl or alkynyl.

8. (Original) A compound as claimed in claim 7, wherein Y stands for an alkylene group.

9. (Currently Amended) A compound as claimed in claim 1, wherein R' stands for aryl, ~~or a heteroaryl containing up to 3 hetero atoms, or a~~ cycloalkyl, ~~or heterocycloalkyl~~ indole or benzo[*d*][1,3]dioxole ~~group~~, ~~each of which may be fused to one or more aryl, heteroaryl, cycloalkyl or heterocycloalkyl rings,~~ each optionally substituted by one or more of alkyl, halide haloalkyl, or alkoxy.

10. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed in claim 1, wherein R'' is H, or C_{1-4} alkyl.

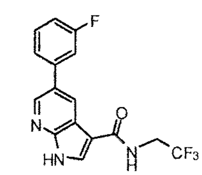
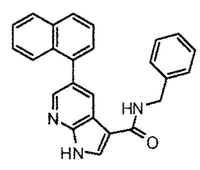
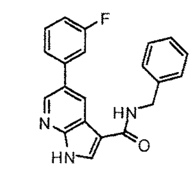
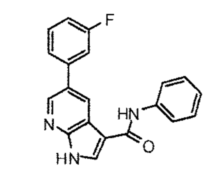
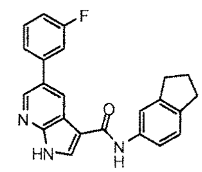
11. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed in claim 1, wherein X is NH.

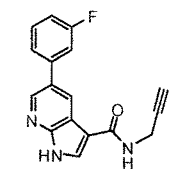
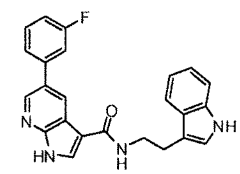
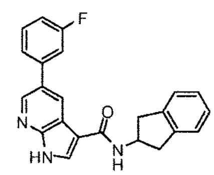
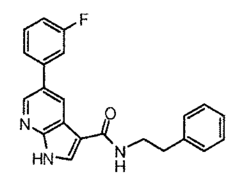
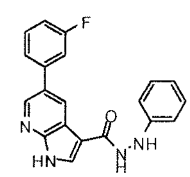
12. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed in claim 1, wherein Y is either absent or a straight or branched chain C_{1-4} alkyl.

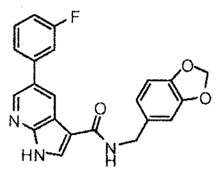
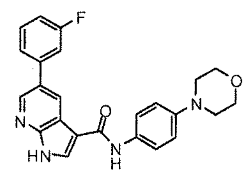
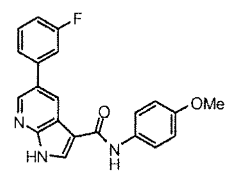
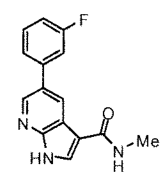
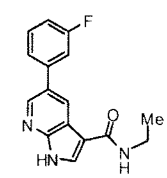
13. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed in claim 1, wherein Y is NR^6.

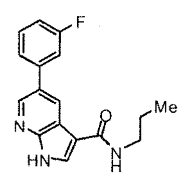
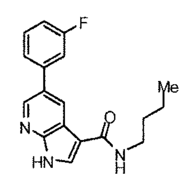
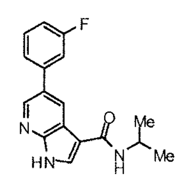
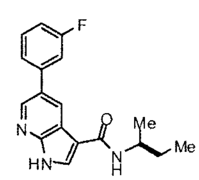
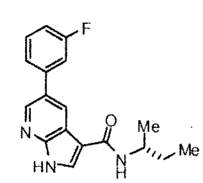
14-15. (Canceled)

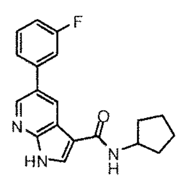
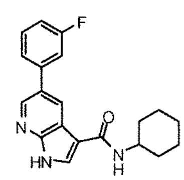
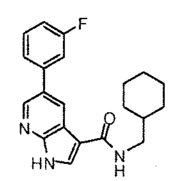
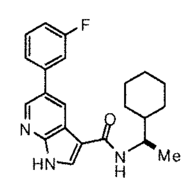
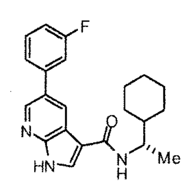
16. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed in claim 1 selected from

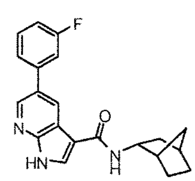
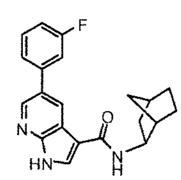
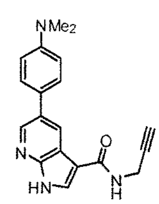
    

  and  .

17-27. (Canceled).

28. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound as defined in claim 1 in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, diluent or excipient.

29. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 28 further comprising one or more other active agent.

30. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 29 wherein the composition further comprises an anti-inflammatory agent.

31. (Canceled)

32. (Previously Presented) A compound as defined in claim 1, or a composition as defined in claim 28, for use in therapy.

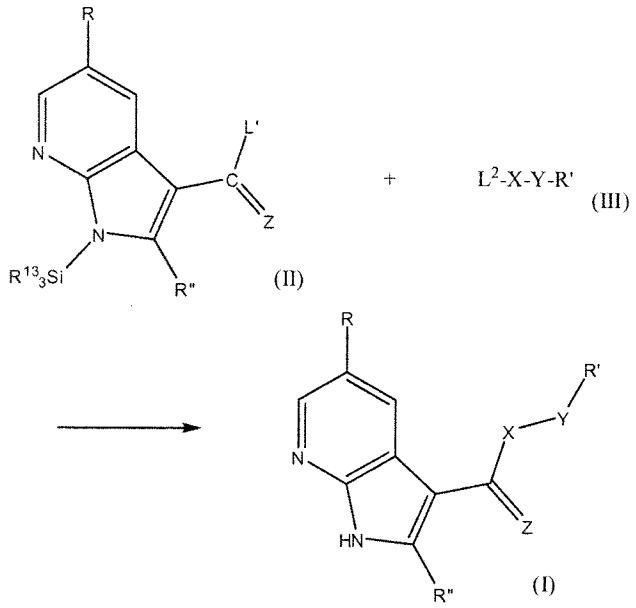
33-63. (Canceled)

64. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed in claim 6, wherein an R is F- substituted aryl.

65. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed in claim 6, wherein the haloalkyl is CF_3.

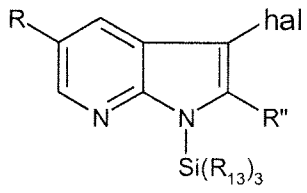
66. (Previously Presented) A compound as claimed in claim 6, wherein alkyl is methyl, ethyl or propyl.

67. (New) A process for the manufacture of a compound of claim 1 which comprises condensing a compound of the general formula (II) with a compound of the general formula (III):



in which R, R', R'', X and Y are as defined in claim 1, Z is O, R^{13} stands for C_{1-6} straight or branched alkyl and L^1 and L^2 stand for radicals that together form a condensation product, to form the compound of the formula (I).

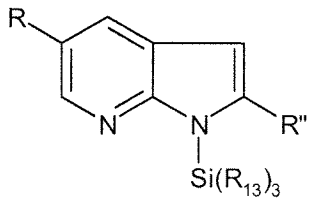
68. (New) A process as claimed in claim 67, wherein the compound of the general formula (II), in which Z stands for O and L^1 stands for OH, is formed by reacting a compound of the general formula (VIII)



(VIII)

in which R_{13}, R and R'' are as defined in claim 67 and hal stands for a halogen atom, with an alkali metal alkyl, and then reacting the product so obtained with CO_2.

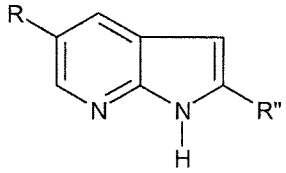
69. (New) A process as claimed in claim 68, wherein the compound of the general formula (VIII) is formed by halogenating a compound of the formula (VII) at C-3 position



(VII)

in which R_{13}, R and R'' are as defined in claim 68.

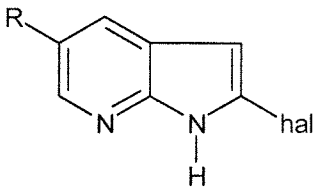
70. (New) A process as claimed in claim 69, wherein the compound of the general formula (VII) is formed by reacting a compound of the general formula (VI)



(VI)

in which R and R'' are as defined in claim 69, with an alkali metal alkyl, followed by reacting the product so obtained with $R^{13}{}_3Si$-hal, in which R_{13} is as defined in claim 69 and hal stands for a halogen atom.

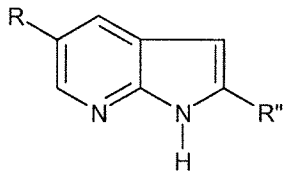
71. (New) A process as claimed in claim 70, wherein the compound of the general formula (VI), in which R'' stands for hydrogen, is formed by hydrogenating a compound of the general formula (V):



(V)

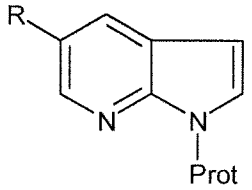
in which R is as defined in claim 70 and hal stands for halogen.

72. (New) A process as claimed in claim 70, wherein the compound of the general formula (VI), in which R'' is as defined in claim 70 except that it does not stand for hydrogen, is formed by protecting the compound of the general formula (VI),



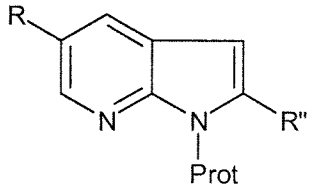
(VI)

in which R'' stands for hydrogen, at C-1 position with a suitable protecting group, to form a compound of the general formula (IX)



(IX)

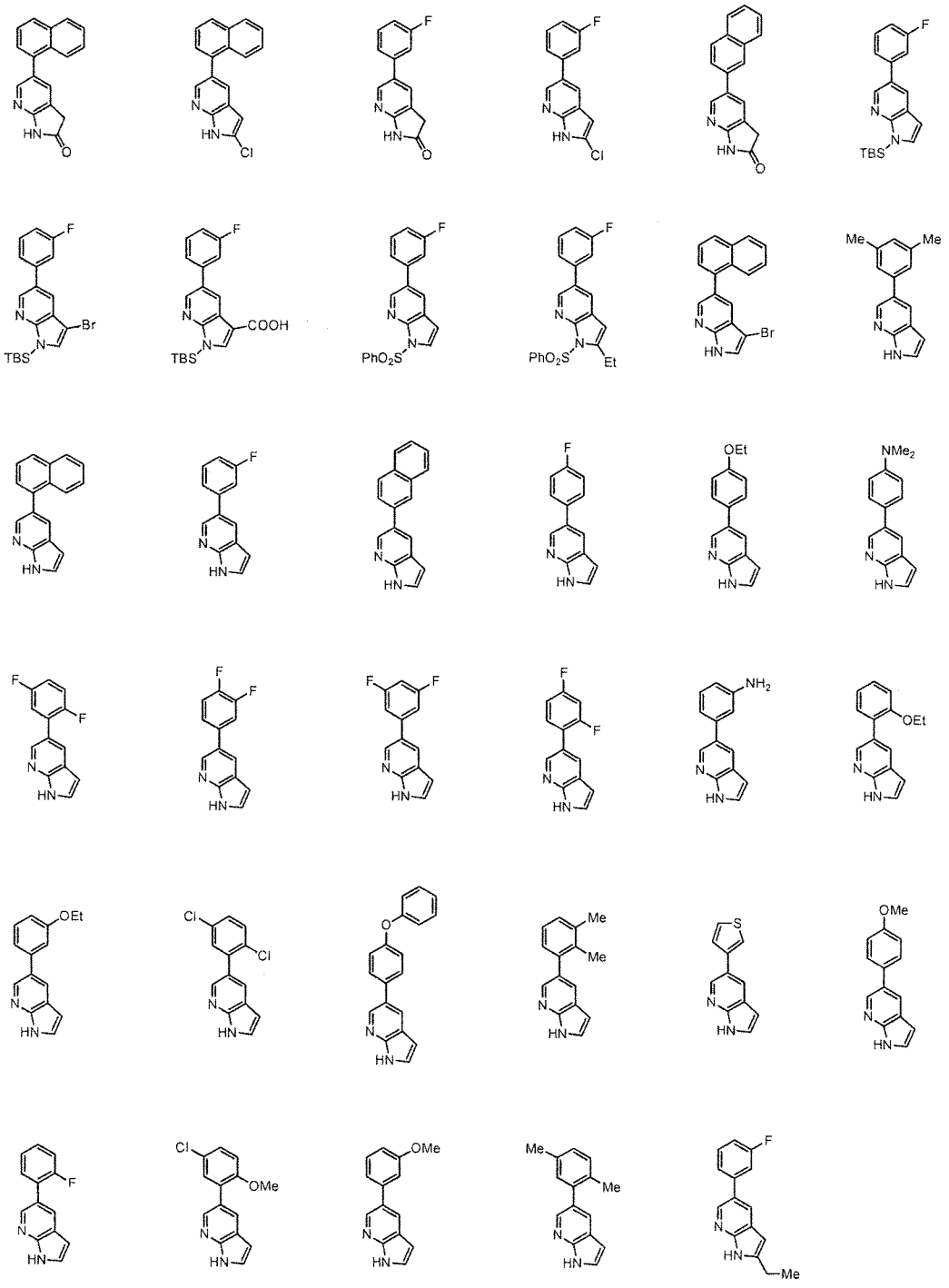
in which R is as defined in claim 70 and prot stands for the protecting group, and treating the compound of the general formula (IX) with an alkali metal alkyl, and then with a compound R''-hal, in which hal stands for a halogen, and R'' is as defined in claim 70 except that it does not stand for hydrogen, to form the compound of the general formula (X)

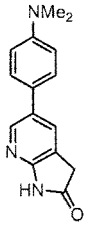


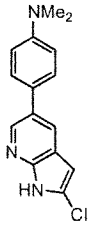
(X)

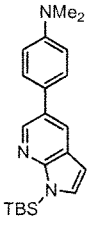
in which R and R'' are is as defined in claim 70 except that R'' does not stand for hydrogen and in which prot stands for the protecting group, and removing the protecting group, to form a compound of the general formula (VI) in which R and R'' are as defined in claim 70 except that R'' does not stand for hydrogen.

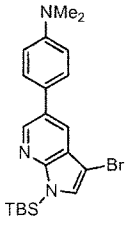
73. (New) A process as claimed in claim 71 or 72, wherein the compound of the general formula (VI) is selected from:











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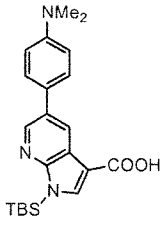
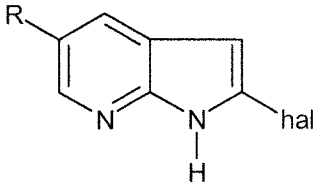


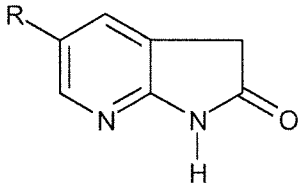
74. (New) A process as claimed in claim 71, wherein the compound of the general formula (VI), in which R'' stands for hydrogen, is formed by hydrogenating a compound of the general formula (V),



(V)

in which R is as defined in claim 71 and hal stands for a halogen atom, in the presence of hydrogen and Pd-C catalyst.

75. (New) A process as claimed in claim 74, wherein the compound of the general formula (V) is formed by halogenating a compound of the general formula (IV) at C-2 position,



(IV)

in which R is as defined in claim 74.

76. (New) A process as claimed in claim 67, which includes the further step of converting the compound of the general formula (I) in which Z stands for O into a compound of the general formula (I) in which Z stands for S or NR^7.

77. (New) A process for the manufacture of a composition as defined in claim 28, comprising combining a compound as defined in claim 1, and any additional active agent, with the pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

78. (New) A method for inhibiting JNK, the method comprising administering to a subject in need thereof a pharmaceutical formulation of claim 28.

79. (New) The method of claim 78, wherein JNK is JNK3.

80. (New) A method for the prevention or treatment of JNK-mediated disorder, the method comprising administering to a patient in need thereof the pharmaceutical formulation of claim 28.

81. (New) The method of claim 80, wherein the disorder is a neurodegenerative disorder, an inflammatory disease, a disorder linked to apoptosis, neuronal apoptosis, an autoimmune disease, destructive bone disorder, proliferative disorder, cancer, infectious disease, allergy, ischemia reperfusion injury, heart attack, angiogenic disorder, organ hypoxia, vascular hyperplasia, cardiac hypertrophy, thrombin induced platelet aggregation and/or a condition associated with prostaglandin endoperoxidase synthase-2.

82. (New) The method of claim 81, wherein the neurodegenerative disorder is linked to apoptosis and/or is an inflammatory disease.

83. (New) The method of claim 81, wherein the neurodegenerative disorder is: dementia; Alzheimer's disease; Parkinson's disease; Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis; Huntington's disease; senile chorea; Sydenham's chorea; hypoglycemia; head and spinal cord trauma, traumatic head

injury; acute pain; chronic pain; epilepsy, seizures; olivopontocerebellar dementia; neuoronal cell death; hypoxia-related neurodegeneration; acute hypoxia; glutamate toxicity, glutamate neurotoxicity; cerebral ischemia; dementia linked to meningitis and/or dementia linked to neurosis; cerebrovascular dementia; or dementia in an HIV-infected patient.

84. (New) The method of claim 81, wherein the neurodegenerative disorder is a peripheral neuropathy, mononeuropathy, multiple mononeuropathy, polyneuropathy, Lyme disease, uremia; peripheral neuropathy caused by a toxic agent; a demyelinating disease; multiple mononeuropathy secondary to a collagen vascular disorder; multiple mononeuropathy secondary to sarcoidosis; multiple mononeuropathy secondary to a metabolic disease; or multiple mononeuropathy secondary to an infectious disease.

85. (New) The method of claim 81, wherein the disorder is inflammatory bowel disorder; bronchitis; asthma; acute pancreatitis; chronic pancreatitis; allergies of various types; Alzheimer's disease; autoimmune disease; systemic lupus; erythematosus; glumerulonephritis; scleroderma; chronic thyroiditis; Graves's disease; autoimmune gastritis; diabetes; autoimmune haemolytis anaemia; autoimmune neutropaenia; thrombocytopenia; atopic dermatitis; chronic active hepatitis; myasthenia gravis; multiple sclerosis; ulcerative colitis; Crohn's disease; psoriasis; or graft vs host disease.

86. (New) The method of claim 83, wherein one or more other active agent is administered to the individual simultaneously, subsequently or sequentially to administering the compound.

87. (New) The method of claim 86, wherein the other active agent is an anti-inflammatory agent.

88. (New) An assay for determining the activity of the compounds as defined in claim 1, comprising providing a system for assaying the activity and assaying the activity of a compound as defined in claim 1.

89. (New) An assay as claimed in claim 88, wherein the assay is for the JNK inhibiting activity of the compound.

90. (New) An assay as claimed in claim 88, wherein the assay is a Scintillation Proximity Assay (SPA).